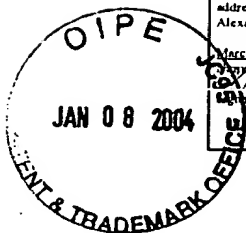


AF/346)



I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on 5 January 2004.

Marcia A. Mueller

Signature

Corres. and Mail BOX AF

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE
RESPONSE/AMENDMENT

Mail Stop AF
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an AMENDMENT for the patent application:

Application No. : 08/828,005
Applicant(s) : Gary Dean LaVon et al.
Filed : 27 March 1997
Title : ABSORBENT ARTICLES HAVING REMOVABLE COMPONENTS
TC/A.U. : 3761
Examiner : Karin M. Reichle, Esq.
Conf. No. : 4421
Docket No. : 6563
Customer No. : 27752

1. ☒ No additional fees (claims fees or extension fees) are known to be required.
2. ☐ The fee has been calculated as shown below:

	(Col. 1)		(Col. 2)	(Col. 3)	OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY	
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA*	RATE	FEE
TOTAL	* 19	MINUS	** 27	= 0	x \$18 =	\$0.00
INDEP.	* 1	MINUS	*** 3	= 0	x \$86 =	\$0.00
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEP. CLAIM					+ \$290 =	\$0.00
					TOTAL	\$0.00

* If the entry in Col. 1 is less than the entry in Col. 2, write "0" in Col. 3.

** If the highest number of total claims previously paid for is less than 20, write "20" in this space.

*** If the highest number of independent claims previously paid for is less than 3, write "3" in this space.

The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found from the equivalent box in Col. 1 of a prior amendment or the number of claims originally filed.

3. ☐ The Commissioner is hereby petitioned under 37 CFR §1.136(a) to grant any extension of time needed for timely response to the Office Action dated in the above-identified application to preserve pendency of said application. The processing fee under 37 CFR §1.17 has been determined as follows: \$ for a -month extension of time.
4. The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 16-2480. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.
 - a. ☒ Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR §1.16.
 - b. ☒ Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR §1.17.
5. The Director is hereby authorized to make any additional copies of this sheet needed to accomplish the purposes provided for herein and to charge any fee for such copies to Deposit Account No. 16-2480.

Michael P. Hayden
Michael P. Hayden
Agent for Applicant(s)
Registration No. 48,433
Tel. No. (513) 626-5800

Date: 5 January 2004
Customer No. 27752
(6563Transamd.doc)



Application No. 08/828,005
Response dated 5 January 2004
Response to Final Office Action mailed 5 November 2003

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Reply under 37 CFR 1.116 – Expedited Procedure – Art Unit 3761

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of Gary Dean LaVon et al.

Application No. 08/828,005

Docket No. 6563

Confirmation No. 4421

Filed: 27 March 1997

Title: Absorbent Articles Having Removable Components

Art Unit: 3761

Examiner: Karin M. Reichle, Esq.

Commissioner for Patents

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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JAN 12 2004

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Not Entered
1-15-04
Drawings not approved
1-25-04

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

In response to the Final Office Action mailed on 5 November 2003, further examination and reconsideration in view of the following amendments and remarks is hereby respectfully requested.

Amendments to the specification begin on page **2** of this paper.

A **new abstract** is herewith submitted on page **19** of this paper.

Amendments to the claims begin on page **20** of this paper.

Proposed amendments to the drawing figures are described beginning on page **24** of this paper and are shown on the attached annotated sheets showing proposed changes.

Remarks and arguments begin on page **30** of this paper.